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CLINICAL NOTES FROM THE BABIES' WARDS,

222 East Twentieth Street, New York City.

Medical Division.

SERVICE OF PROFESSOR AUGUSTUS CAILLÉ, M. D.

This is the first series of Clinical Reports which the Medical Division has in mind to publish from time to time. Only a few cases are chosen for publication, selected with a view of presenting the mode of treatment or features of special interest.

HEMOPHILIA (BLEEDERS.)

1. The cases here presented were under observation and treatment at the Babies' Wards on several occasions during the past two years, and offer a most remarkable instance of the congenital and hereditary affection, affecting all the children in one family.

History.—Grandparents on father's side, healthy. Three brothers and one sister of mother died of phthisis. Mr. W——, father, age 41, born in New York, of German descent, butter packer by occupation, had rheumatic polyarthrititis at the age of 33, for which he was treated at the New York Hospital. He has epistaxis profusely and frequently, and is of an irritable temperament. His blood is thin and poor in appearance.

The Hæmato spectroscope shows eight per cent. oxyhæmoglobin, and the blood contains 2,480,000 red blood corpuscles to c. mm. and abundant leucocytes.

Mother:—Age 30, born in Germany. Menstruation profuse and lasts seven to eight days. Married at 20. Four children, nine, five, two, and one-half years old. Has hæmorrhoids which bleed profusely at each labor. When seven months pregnant with the last child, the mother bled daily for about one hour from the left nostril. Has fœtid breath, decayed teeth and swollen gums, which bleed on eating solid food, and when laughing, crying or cleaning teeth. Blood appears normal. 4,132,000 red corpuscles to c. mm. Nine per cent. oxyhæmoglobin.

The oldest child, George, nine years, raised on condensed milk. One lower incisor appeared at nine months; one upper incisor appeared at eighteen months. Gums bled profusely with eruption of each temporary or permanent tooth for about three weeks. At the age of three years both nostrils bled profusely for three weeks, requiring packing of nares at Bellevue Hospital, where he had to remain in bed for some time to regain strength.

At four years the boy had hæmaturia constantly for twenty-one days, urinating every two hours. At five years he bled profusely from abrasion of lower lip for three weeks. At four years, when four upper temporary incisors dropped out, his gums bled constantly for four to five weeks, requiring six weeks' treatment at St. Luke's Hospital. Recently the boy has had another attack of hæmaturia of short duration.

At the present time every fall or blow is followed by ecchymosis of joints, with inability to use limbs for three or four weeks. The right knee is markedly swollen, with blood clots in the popliteal space. The limb is flexed, and very tender on motion or to the touch. When walking the boy steps lightly on the toes, and does not rest upon the entire foot, the knees and ankles being principally affected. On account of susceptibility to hæmorrhages into joints, the boy has been unable to attend school. The child is otherwise thin, anæmic, irritable and has foetid breath, and swollen gums which bleed when he coughs or cries, or when eating solid food, and so forth. His nose bleeds frequently and profusely, and he also has phymosis. Blood: 3,840,000 red corpuscles in c. mm. seven per cent. oxyhæmoglobin. Ratio of leucocytes not altered.

Second child, Harry, a boy five years old; breast for two years. Bled from gums on eruption of all temporary teeth, from fourteen to twenty-one days, with no tendency to clot; also bled on biting tongue or abraded mucous membranes. At three years he fell down cellar from a swinging gate and lacerated the scalp over the occipital bone, one inch in length, requiring five and a half months' treatment at St. Luke's Hospital. Nine stitches were used in sewing wound. Blood from wound soiled the bed clothes every night, and there was also epistaxis at regular intervals. Admitted to Babies' Wards, Medical Division, for bleeding gums and malnutrition, January, 1893. The usual styptics and local pressure had no effect in stopping the bleeding. Swabbing with one-half per cent. of potassium permanganate solution controlled the bleeding considerably, and after two weeks of nourishing liquid diet, with small doses of tincture ferri chloride and fruit juice, the boy was discharged in an excellent condition. He was readmitted with recurrent stomatitis and bleeding a month later, and treated as before, with the best result. The condition was

now so favorable that circumcision was performed in the Surgical Ward, on March 1st, under ether. Considerable bleeding took place which was not checked by four interrupted sutures, and continued under a firm dressing. Three additional sutures were introduced in the region of *frænum*. The blood had no tendency to clot. Styptic cotton was applied with a firm bandage, through which the blood still continued to ooze. This continued for two weeks after the operation, with no tendency of the wound to heal. The bleeding finally was checked, and his general condition improved by tonics and stimulants, and he was discharged in good condition.

Harry was again admitted to the Babies' Wards, July 24, 1893, moribund from hæmorrhage from the gums, from two distinct and visible places. The child was exsanguinated, was unable to sit up vomited all food, and had clonic muscular twitching all over the body. The hæmorrhage was checked by means of Paquelin cautery and digital pressure, and camphorated oil was given per rectum, and sterilized milk with lime water was fed. He was able to go home in three days.

Third child, Viola, æt. two years, nursed for fourteen months, bled freely from gums on violent crying and laughing, also from mucous membranes of mouth and nose on the slightest traumatism, and also from genitals for a period of three weeks. The child has pain on urination, has swollen gums and foetid breath.

Medicinal treatment and improvement as in previous case.

Fourth child, male, six months at breast. Had large hæmatoma at birth. Admitted December 14th, 1893, to Babies' Wards, Medical Division, for purpura hæmorrhagica and small submaxillary abscess, which began as a blue hard lump. In view of the tendency to bleed, the abscess was emptied by aspiration, and washed out with two per cent. carbolic acid. It healed promptly. Ten minims of Thompson's solution of phosphorus were given three times a day, together with dilute sterilized milk and moderate stimulation. The baby was soon free of purpura and was sent home in good condition.

The accompanying cut is taken from a photograph of the three oldest children. The entire family is carnivorous in the choice of food. The blood examinations were obtained through the courtesy of Dr. C. O. Maisch.

Should similar cases present themselves for treatment at the Babies' Wards, we propose to test the efficacy of nascent ozone.

VALVULAR HEART DISEASE, WITH GENERAL MUSCULAR ATROPHY.

5. A. S., a girl three years old, was admitted to the Babies' Wards in an atrophic condition, unable to walk, and barely able to stand. A careful physical examination revealed nothing abnormal except a systolic murmur due in all probability to insufficiency of the mitral valve (not congenital). The electrical reaction of the muscles was normal, and the urine contained no abnormal constituents. The case was looked upon as one of malnutrition and atrophy due to an early acquired valvular defect of the heart. Bath, massage, electricity, active and passive motion, and a carefully selected diet, together with the administration of iron and strychnia, brought about such an improvement that the child was soon able to walk, and is now doing well at home.

A case very much like the foregoing one was admitted, but was sent home after a few days' stay, on account of an attack of measles.

CHRONIC GASTRO-ENTERITIS MALNUTRITION. PURPURA SIMPLEX.

6. John S., six months old, was admitted to our Wards, weighing but seven pounds, with a history of improper feeding, incessant vomiting, dyspepsia and diarrhoea since birth. Physical examination revealed a dilated stomach (capacity about twelve ounces).

Stomach washing was at once resorted to, and two ounces of diluted peptonized milk given every two hours, with a small dose of hydrate of chloral and bromide of potassium, to secure rest at night. After a week of such treatment, pasteurized milk from the Gordon Laboratory was ordered, containing three per cent. fat, one per cent. albumin and seven per cent. milk sugar, with lime water added.

The vomiting and diarrhoea were promptly checked, and stomach irrigation was practiced only every other day. In the intervals of feeding, a few ounces of starchy food (cornstarch pap and burnt flower) were given twice a day, and in the way of medication ten drops of Thompson's solution of phosphorus were administered. The purpura rapidly disappeared and the child was sent home plump and smiling, weighing thirteen pounds, after two months' stay at our Hospital.



A FAMILY OF BLEEDERS.



Reina Jackseriner, an Esquimaux
Girl, $3\frac{1}{2}$ years of age.



Clement Veronoka Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis.
Babies' Wards, February 6, 1894.

Photographs taken soon after admission to Babies' Wards.





